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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/748,994	12/27/2000	Douglas B. Quine	F-240	6431
919	7590	04/22/2005	EXAMINER	
PITNEY BOWES INC. 35 WATerview DRIVE P.O. BOX 3000 MSC 26-22 SHELTON, CT 06484-8000			GIBBS, HEATHER D	
		ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER	
		2622		
DATE MAILED: 04/22/2005				

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	09/748,994	QUINE, DOUGLAS B.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Heather D Gibbs	2622

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 06 December 2004.

2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1,5 and 7 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) Claim(s) 1,5 and 7 is/are rejected.

7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on 06 March 2001 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) All b) Some * c) None of:
1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____

4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____ .

5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6) Other: ____ .

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1. Applicant's request for reconsideration of the finality of the rejection of the last Office action is persuasive and, therefore, the finality of that action is withdrawn.

Response to Arguments

2. Applicant's arguments, see pages 4-6 of Appeal Brief, filed 12/06/04, with respect to Claims 1,5,7 have been fully considered and are persuasive. The rejection of Claims 1,5,7 has been withdrawn.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 1,5,7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Adler et al (US 6,256,115) in view of Fischer (US 5,214,702).

Considering claim 1, Adler discloses a method of authenticating information communicated between a first facsimile communication device and a second facsimile communication device via a communication network (abstract; Fig 1 node 10, Col 4 lines 57-Col 6 Line 42), comprising the steps of:

- a) Receiving input data and generating facsimile information in a first format by said first communication device from said input data (Col 6 Line 17-Col 7 Line 15);
- b. Processing said input data to compute an encrypted checksum (abstract; Col 5 Line 66-Col 6 Lines 16; Col 18 Lines 14-59);
- c. Convolving said facsimile information with said encrypted checksum data to produce convolved data (Col 18 Line 42-col 19 line 24).

Adler does not disclose expressly decrypting, at said second communication device, said encrypted checksum, computing a checksum of said input data received at said second communications device, and alerting a recipient at said second communication device in the event of a mismatch between said checksum data computed in step (e) and said decrypted checksum data in step (d).

Fischer discloses the steps of

- d. Decrypting, at said second communication device, said encrypted checksum (Col 10 Lines 25-65; Col 16 Lines 3-27);
- e. Computing a checksum of said input data received at said second communications device (Col 16 Lines 13-43); and
- f. Alerting a recipient at said second communication device in the event of a mismatch between said checksum data computed in step (e) and said decrypted checksum data in step (d) (Col 16 Lines 28-51).

Adler & Fischer are combinable because they are from the same field of endeavor, being systems that transmit encrypted data to a destination, where it is decrypted.

At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to combine the teachings of Fischer with the system of Adler.

The suggestion/motivation for doing so would have been that Adler's system would have better security with the inclusion of Fischer's teachings, as the destination device can decipher the transmitted message and verify the integrity of the message, thus reducing the chance of corruption, as recognized by Fischer in Col 7 Lines 26-55.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to combine the teachings of Fischer with system of Adler to obtain the invention as specified in claim 1.

Regarding claim 5, Adler teaches wherein a database system is communicatively coupled to said second facsimile communication device (Col 9 Line 46-Col 10 Line 45).

Regarding claim 7, Adler comprises the step of configuring an e-mail system for receiving and displaying an alert message to said recipient along with said received input data (Col 18 Lines 14-59).

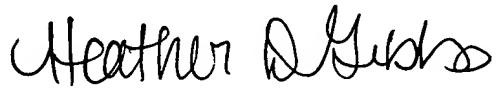
Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Heather D Gibbs whose telephone number is 571-272-7404. The examiner can normally be reached on M-Thu 8AM-6PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Edward L. Coles can be reached on 571-272-7402. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Art Unit: 2622

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Heather D Gibbs
Examiner
Art Unit 2622

hdg



EDWARD GIBBS
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